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ZOMBIE WALK

Zombies plan to invade Welland Sunday



MARYANNE FIRTH
QMI Agency Niagara

As her transformation begins, her body stiffens and her eyes roll back into her head.

Blood drips from her mouth and an indecipherable sound escapes her lips as she staggers toward the door.

Jennifer Brown is ready.

The 26-year-old Brown is one of hundreds expected to play undead in the Rose City's downtown core on Sunday during the fourth annual Welland Zombie Walk.

The brainchild of Steve Lambert and James Tuker, the walk has grown in strides each year since its inception — from eight people at the inaugural outing to 300 in 2013.

Takao would like to see last

MARYANNE FIRTH/QMI AGENCY NIAGARA
Sheri Truskoski does a trial run of Jennifer Brown's makeup for the fourth annual Welland Zombie Walk, taking place Oct. 26 in the city's downtown core.

year's attendance matched, if not exceeded, when the walking dead hit the streets last month.

Walkers are asked to meet at the Welland bus terminal at 6:30 p.m.

Participants will be provided with bite-sized, biteable food items will be collected for the Food Centre and pet necessities for Welland and District Humane Society. No cash donations will be accepted.

The horde of brain-cravers will move down East Main St., cross Main Street Bridge and head back along Division St. before the entire crowd will then walk down Division St., Cross St. and back up East Main to the terminal.

While hundreds of people came out to participate in 2013, many also lined the streets to watch the undead action.

"It was like we were a parade," Lambert said with a laugh, while adding he hopes to see the trend continue.

See WALK on Page 2

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UPFRONT

■ HALLOWEEN: Haunted catacomb helps charity

Will you brave the Tunnel of Terror?



■ WALK

Children who participate receive goodies

From Page 1

Asked what sets Welland's zombie walk apart from those in other communities, Lambert believes the answer is simple: "Ours is family-friendly."

It's an opportunity for children to dress up, go out with their families and celebrate Halloween in a safe way," said the father-of-three.

"I would've been stoked to participate when I was a kid," said Lambert, who has been a fan of the living dead

for as long as he can remember.

It's a matter, he added, of parents knowing when their children are old enough to participate in such an event.

"Maybe zombies are not for everyone," Takeo said.

"But let the kids do it, enjoy it, enjoy it," he said.

Children can each receive a treat bag, are not required to dress in their undead attire and can instead come in any Halloween costume of their choosing.

Despite their chaotic nature, zombies participating in the walk are asked to stay on the sidewalks, obey traffic laws and not touch private property. Volunteer crossing guards are provided to help ensure everyone's safety.

"The most important thing is that everyone is safe," Lambert said.

Local businesses have shown support to the walk, donating prizes that will be handed out to first-, second-

ALISON LANGLEY
(QMI AGENCY NIAGARA)

A couple in Niagara Falls hope to scare up some cash for charity this month.

Karyn and Dave Torbett's favourite holiday is Halloween and for the past five years they've turned their backyard into a haunted catacomb for young and old alike.

"We love Halloween," Dave said.

And they also love helping others.

While there is no admission fee to enter their Tunnel of Terror on Loyalist Ave., they will be accepting food donations for Project SHARE.

ALISON LANGLEY (QMI AGENCY NIAGARA)

Karyn and Dave Torbett prepare their Tunnel of Terror. The haunted catacombs on Loyalist Ave. will be open to the public Oct. 29, 30 and 31.

TUNNEL OF TERROR

3007 Loyalist Ave.
Oct. 29, 30 and 31
6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

as well as monetary donations to help a 13-year-old Port Colborne boy in his battle against cancer.

"We want to give the kids a safe place to celebrate Halloween as well as to raise awareness and money for charities," Dave said.

"We've all been touched by cancer in one way shape or form."

All money raised will be forwarded to the boy and his family with transportation costs and other expenses.

Last year, 650 people braved the Tunnel of Ter-

ror, which raised \$950 for a 12-year-old girl battling brain cancer and 500 pounds of food for Project SHARE.

"We had some kids coming through 50 times," Karyn said.

"Last year on Halloween the weather was so bad that we closed a bit early and had a group come from out of town so we opened it right back up again."

The couple start preparing for the event in early October and Dave estimates it takes "hundreds" of hours to create the product which includes smoke machines, lasers and cast of costumed characters.

The Tunnel of Terror runs Oct. 29, 30 and 31 from 6 to 10 p.m.

alison.langley@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @mfalstangley



MARYANNE FIRTH (QMI AGENCY NIAGARA)

Jennifer Brown has a makeup trial done in preparation for the fourth annual Welland Zombie Walk, taking place Oct. 26 in the city's downtown core.

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LOCAL NEWS

■ PUBLIC SAFETY: Police say contract is valid; government investigating company

Furnace sale to man with dementia upsets friends

DAN DAKIN

QMI Agency Niagara

A Welland couple who say their family friends were burned by a questionable furnace deal want to warn others not to let it happen to them.

Henry and Lorraine Klein, who have been taking care of an elderly St. Catharines man suffering from dementia and his 50-year-old son with a serious brain injury, said the two men agreed to replace their six-year-old furnace with a new one that ended up costing more than \$6,000.

Henry Klein said he wants others to know that Toronto-based Ontario Energy Group, which sold the furnace and had it installed,

"I have to get something done, because other people are going to get the same thing," he said.

The names of the victims are being kept anonymous at the request of other family members, who fear making their relatives' names public will make them a target for scammers.

The Klins and the 50-year-old brain-injured man once spent more than \$30,000 over 10 years on Publisher's Clearing House, while his 84-year-old dad put his house up for sale two years ago and then thought potential buyers and real estate agents touring the home were just visitors.

"All of the real estate agents in St. Catharines told us not to take his calls," Henry Klein said.

The situation with the furnace started Aug. 27, Lorraine Klein said. That's when a salesman showed up at the elderly man's St. Catharines home and said he was there to inspect his furnace.

She said the elderly man told her the salesman identified himself as someone who works for the government. After the salesman checked out the existing six-year-old furnace, the elderly man signed a contract to immediately have it replaced with a new one from the Ontario Energy Group.

The contract included payments of \$70 a month for the next 15 years, and allowed the Ontario Energy Group to put a lien on the house in case the bill wasn't paid.

Within two days, the old furnace had been removed and the new one installed.

A few days later, Lorraine Klein found out what happened when her friend casually mentioned it.

"He said it was from the government and they got it for free," she said. "I said 'nothing is for free.' Right away, I went downstairs and sure enough, there was a new furnace. I was fuming mad."

Knowing Ontario has a 10-day cooling

off period for contracts, Klein said she immediately called the company, but the company but couldn't get anyone to return her calls. She has phone records showing multiple calls to Ontario Energy Group's Toronto phone number before the 10-day period expired.

The Klins contacted Niagara Regional Police, but she was told because the salesman was invited into the house and a contract was signed, no laws were broken.

They also contacted a lawyer to ask if they could fight the contract, but were told it would cost more to fight it than to simply pay it out.

QMI Agency Niagara made repeated calls to Ontario Energy Group requesting comment for this story. A receptionist said the only person authorized to speak was vice-president Mark Tremblay. Messages left for him were not returned.

Rather than fight, the Klins and a relative of the family who lives in Atlantic Canada decided to buy out the contract at a cost of \$6,215.

Had the elderly man continued to pay \$70 per month, the furnace would have ended up costing \$12,600.

Spokeswoman Alison MacLennan, who handles complaints like the Klein's, said the ministry is aware of Ontario Energy Group.

"This business is currently under investigation," Sandra Bentto said.

She said the Consumer Protection Act allows contracts signed in a consumer's home to be cancelled "for any reason" within 10 days.

Bento said even though that period has passed, the ministry can still investigate any transaction that has taken place within the past two years.

In addition, she said, if a consumer feels "the salesperson has misled them, the consumer has the right to cancel the agreement within one year and have any money paid returned."

"It is considered an unfair practice for a person to make a false, misleading or deceptive representation under the Consumer Protection Act," Bentto said.

Whatever happens with her friends, Lorraine Klein hopes this situation can be a lesson for others.

"I just want people to know not to let these people in," she said. "Because it's Ontario Energy Group, they think they're from the government and they know what they're talking about."

"We don't care about getting the most back. That's not the point. The point is to let people know that these people aren't what they say they are," she said.

Henry Klein said he knows moving the elderly man out of his home might seem



DAN DAKIN / STAFF PHOTO
Henry and Lorraine Klein look over some of the paperwork from the sale of a furnace to their family friends by Ontario Energy Group. The Klins want to warn seniors about inviting salesmen into their homes and signing lengthy contracts.

like the best choice for his own protection, but that would mean separating the father and son.

"You would be breaking up a

pair that are two halves thinking for each other. To try to find an environment for the both of them — that concerns me, because

they'll be split apart."

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Pelham News

Published by PelhamNEWS, Sun Media Corp.

228 East Main St., Welland, ON L3B 5P5

Tel: 905-732-2414 ext.246 Fax: 905-732-3660

e-mail: welland.tribune@sunmedia.ca

John Tobon, PUBLISHER, PENT & DENTAL

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 A Quebecor Media Company

COMMENT

I know it's Ebola, but don't panic

GRANT LAFLECHE
 QMI Agency Niagara

OK, so let's everyone just sit down and relax, yeah?

Look, I get it. Ebola is scary. I mean, it's not regular old scary, like a mayoral candidate coming to your door. Or even make you scream scary, like being tied to a chair and forced to watch Howard the Duck on a never-ending loop. Trust me, that is pretty horrifying.

Ebola is truly horror movie, end of the world-type scary.

And we think that, thanks to our science fiction writers and moviemakers who have concocted all manner of killer-virus-wipes-out-humankind scenarios to keep us up nights and heighten our paranoia.

If you are the sort who thinks they are going to catch Ebola, then you are by learning about it, the last thing you should ever do is read about Ebola. Because you would learn about the nasty progression from flu-like symptoms to bleeding from every place you can think of bleeding from (yes, including that place too) and then worry you are going to die the next time you catch a cold.

So I understand why people are nervous about it. It's a serious thing.

You know what else is a serious thing?



JIM BOURG / REUTERS
 Protester Jeff Hulbert of Annapolis, Md., demonstrates in favour of a travel ban to stop the spread of the Ebola virus, in front of the White House in Washington.

Really.

It turns out the real world is a serious thing we should all try to pay attention to at least some of the time.

As serious as Ebola is, and as quickly as some diseases can zip around the globe thanks to rapid modes of travel, it is really unlikely we are going to see an Ebola epidemic in Canada.

People are just freaking out, and it needs to stop. I know lots of folks who don't want to see relatives for a long, long month if those relatives travel to the Caribbean because they are so scared of Ebola.

There are no Ebola outbreaks in that part of world. But never mind that! Ebola is scary.

The Ontario government has actually started to try to calm health-care workers,

who should know better, and the public, who should also know better.

Everyone, please, have a Kit Kat.

The fact is that for all its horror, Ebola is really hard to contract. You pretty much need to get the bodily fluids of someone who already has the virus and get it into your body, through an open wound or elsewhere.

The common flu or something like SARS, which is a terrible virus, is transmitted much more easily. The flu kills thousands of Canadians every year, and we don't lose our minds over that, do we?

Also, the Ebola outbreaks are confined to a few countries in West Africa. The concern is not that Ebola will end up in Niagara, but that the international community isn't doing

enough to halt its spread in Africa.

International health organizations' warnings about the rapid spread of the virus urge the world to do more to save the lives of thousands of Africans.

The collective, and disgraceful, response from much of the world has been to say: "Africa? Pfft. What if Ebola comes here?"

Sigh.

OK, so what if Ebola does come here? We have modern hospitals and health-care infrastructure to deal with it. They don't have those things in the nations getting clobbered by the virus.

Also, there are no direct flights to Ontario from West Africa. There have been eight people in Ontario who had potential contact with Ebola and who had been to West Africa. All tested negative.

If a legitimate Ebola case does arrive in Canada, if we don't want a crisis on our hands we absolutely need to remember the immortal advice from *A Hitchhiker's Guide to the Galaxy*, inscribed in large, friendly letters on its cover — DON'T PANIC.

At the end of the day, when you are faced with a difficult decision, the single worst thing you can do is panic because then you get sloppy, make mistakes and do things you're going to wish later on you hadn't done.

So let's all just try to relax and keep a clear head. OK?

Shipwrecks – John B. Aird

SKIP GILLHAM
 For QMI Agency Niagara

The familiar Welland Canal traveller *John B. Aird* ran aground in St. Lawrence while downbound with a cargo of slag on Sept. 13, 2014.

The 115-year-old self-unloader stranded off Duran Shoal and required assistance to be refloated.

This ship was built in two sections with the cargo area and stern being constructed at Collingwood and the bow at Port Arthur where the two sections were joined. The completed ship was christened at the latter

shipyard on June 3, 1983, and departed for Nanticoke with 31,954 tonnes of coal on June 13.

The *John B. Aird*, part of the Algoma Central Corp. fleet, has carried a variety of cargoes over the years including coal, ore, stone, sand, salt, potash, millscale and grain. A tunnel and gate renewal project was completed in 2006 adding new life to this fine vessel.

After temporary repairs and inspection, the *John B. Aird* was cleared to complete its voyage to Sept Iles, Que., following the recent grounding but was expected to require dry-docking for permanent work.



John B. Aird in the Welland Canal.

BARRY ANDERSEN/PHOTO

LOCAL NEWS

■ COMMUNITY

Kinsmen craft show getting bigger and better

ALLAN BENNER
OML Agency Network

Five years after taking over the annual Kinsmen fall craft show at Welland Centennial Secondary School, club member David Kuckyt says the event is thriving. Fonthill and District Kinsmen have been making it a little bigger every year since resurrecting the event that was poised to shut down after being run for 20 years by Women's Place of South Niagara.

"We have a lot of new vendors here this year, and we have been increasing in size a little bit every year," Kuckyt said. "The more people you get, the more vendors you get, the more people you get coming through because there's more variety."

He said attendance Saturday was about 20% more than in past years, and they were expecting even more people Sunday.

"Things are changing and growing, so it works out really well. It's more money back to the community."

He said there about 25 new vendors this year for a total of approximately 90.

this year for a total of approximately 50.

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SALE OF LAND BY PUBLIC TENDER

FORM 6, *Municipal Act, 2001*

Take Notice that tenders are invited for the purchase of the lands described below and will be received until 3:00 p.m. local time on November 20, 2014, at the Pelham Municipal Building (20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill). The tenders will then be opened in public on the same day as soon as possible after 3:00 p.m. at the Pelham Municipal Building.

Description of Lands:

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 10856 0000; 719 Webber Road; PIN 64028-0288(LT); Part Lot 14 Concession 13 designated Part 23 Plan 59R9440; S/T spousal interest in RO705521, S/T debts in RO705521; Pelham; File No. 13-01. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$17,702.94

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 14126 0000; 950 Webber Road; PIN 64399-0206(LT); Part Lot 18 Concession 14 designated Part 5 Plan 59R12533; S/T executions 10-0001408 and 94-0005152, if enforceable; Pelham; File No. 13-04. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$26,544.21

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 14130 0000; 960 Webber Road; PART OF PIN 64399-0223(R); Part of Lots 18 & 19 Concession 14, in the Town of Pelham, formerly the Township of Pelham designated Part 6 Plan 59R12533; Pelham; File No. 13-05. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$24,400.64

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 14138 0000; 980 Webber Road; PIN 64399-0208(R); Part of Lots 18 & 19 Concession 14, Town of Pelham, formerly the Township of Pelham, designated Part 7 Plan 59R12533; Pelham; File No. 13-06. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$5,495.43

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 14150 0000; 285 Vineland Townline Road; PIN 64399-0211(LT); Part Lot 19 Concession 14 designated Part 9 Plan 59R12533; Pelham; File No. 13-08. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$4,297.03

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 14162 0000; 255 Vineland Townline Rd; PIN 64399-0214(LT); Part Lot 19 Concession 14 Pelham designated Part 12 Plan 59R12533; S/T executions 10-0001408 and 94-0005152, if enforceable; Pelham; File No. 13-10. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$24,128.19

Roll No. 27 32 010 018 14198 0000; PIN 64399-0224(R); Part of Lot 19 Concession 14, Town of Pelham, formerly the Township of Pelham, designated Parts 18, 19, 20 Plan 59R12533; Pelham; File No. 13-11. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$5,435.29

Roll No. 27 32 020 013 14720 0000; PIN 64032-0065(LT); Part Lot 8 Concession 9 Pelham as in PE4519 S/T debts in RO243923 if applicable; Pelham; File No. 13-14. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$4,452.60

Roll No. 27 32 030 005 02202 0000; PIN 64066-0510(LT); Part Block G Plan 717 Fonthill as in FO1538 (secondly); Pelham; File No. 13-15. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$4,465.81

Roll No. 27 32 020 010 19100 0000; PIN 64034-0235(LT); Parcel C-1 Section M48, Block C Plan M48; Pelham; File No. 13-16. **Minimum Tender Amount:** \$3,987.06

Tenders must be submitted in the prescribed form and must be accompanied by a deposit in the form of a money order or of a bank draft or cheque certified by a bank or trust corporation payable to the municipality and representing at least 20 per cent of the tender amount.

Except as follows, the municipality makes no representation regarding the title to, crown interests, environmental concerns, or any other matters relating to the lands to be sold. Responsibility for ascertaining these matters rests with the potential purchasers.

This sale is governed by the Municipal Act, 2001 and the Municipal Tax Sales Rules made under that Act. The successful purchaser will be required to pay the amount tendered plus accumulated taxes, HST if applicable and the relevant land transfer tax.

The municipality has no obligation to provide vacant possession to the successful purchaser.

For further information regarding this sale and a copy of the prescribed form of tender visit www.OntarioTaxSales.ca, or if no internet access available, contact Elaine Ronald, Town of Pelham Taxation Clerk, at 905-892-2607 ext. 338.

■ PROVINCIAL OFFENCES

Old Welland school site chosen for courthouse

ROB HOULE

QMI Agency Niagara

It's done deal.

Niagara Region is set to spend \$26.5 million for a pair of new provincial offences courthouses — including one in Welland.

The announcement was made Wednesday after the ink dried on a deal to purchase the former Welland Academy building at 20 Duncan St. and East Main St. in the Rose City.

The one-hectare property, which was also formally Empire School, was purchased for \$400,000, said Mo Lewis, the region's director of corporate services.

The total budget for the single-courtroom provincial offences

building is \$7.8 million, Lewis said.

"I am confident that the residents of Niagara will be well served from our Welland and St. Catharines courthouses for many years to come," Welland Mayor Barry Sharp said in a news release.

The new courthouse will replace the one located at 3 Cross St. opposite the historic courthouse building.

Over in St. Catharines, the region has opted to build on property it already owns — land at King and Caroline Streets, which includes the former Police station at 68 Church St.

The land is currently a parking lot. The new courthouse, which will replace the one at 71 King St., will

have three courtrooms. The total budget for that build is \$18.7 million, Lewis said.

"I am pleased that we have established a timeline for the location of our current facilities," St. Catharines Mayor Brian McMullan said. "The properties are centrally located, providing residents with improved access to high-quality court services, while supporting our local business communities."

Niagara Region had grappled with the idea of constructing just one provincial offences courthouse before settling on the status quo with one building in each of Welland and St. Catharines.

www.pelham.ca



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RECREATION PROGRAMS & CLASSES

Zumba Classes @ Pelham Arena

Tuesday, October 28 9:30 am – 10:30 am
 Tuesday, October 28 **No Class Tonight**

Wednesday, October 29 7:30 pm – 8:30 pm
 Thursday, October 30 10:00 am – 11:00 am

Drop in and try any session for \$6 or purchase your 10 + 2 bonus passes for \$60. For more info on any Zumba classes, contact 905-892-2607 x329.

Walking Club - Everyone is welcome! – October 28 & 30

Interested in joining a Walking Club? Then join ours! Tuesdays at Pelham Arena from 9-10 am and Thursdays at Fonthill Bandshell from 9-10:30 am. For more information, please contact (905) 892-2607 ext. 329.

Arena Programs

Public Skating	Adult Public Skating	Adult/Preschool	Men's Shiny Hockey	Women's Shiny Hockey	Women's Learn to Play Hockey	Hockey Skills Hour	Pelham Pirates Home Games
Friday Oct 24 4:00 – 5:00 pm Sunday Oct 26 1:00-2:20 pm Tuesday Oct 28 4:00 – 5:00 pm	Thursday Oct 23 1:00 – 2:00 pm	Friday Oct 24 10:00 – 11 am Tuesday Oct 28 1:00 – 2:00 pm	Friday Oct 24 9:00 – 10:00 am Tuesday Oct 28 8:00 – 9:00 am	Thursday Oct 23 10:30 – 11:45 am Monday, Oct 27 9:30 – 10:45 am	Thursday Oct 23 9:30 – 10:30 am	Thursday Oct 23 2:00 – 3:00 pm Monday, Oct 27 11 am – 12 pm	Friday Oct 24 7:30 pm vs Lancaster Tuesday Oct 28 7:00 pm vs. Niagara Falls

Hockey Skills Hour – Come out to practice your hockey skills and learn from a Pelham Pirates Jr. B. Trainer. Ages 10 and up welcome. Shiny rates apply.

COMMUNITY EVENTS & NEWS

Pelham Farmers' Market – May 1 until October 30 – Pelham Town Square – October 16 Market Bucks Winner: Margaret Minge

Come out and meet your local market vendors and purchase food that is fresh, high in quality and the next best thing to harvesting it yourself. Every Thursday from May 1 to October 30, 4:30pm till dusk.

CALL FOR MEMBERS – TOWN OF PELHAM GRANT AWARD COMMITTEE

The Town of Pelham is seeking three applicants to join the new Municipal Grant Committee, whose mandate is to provide advice and input into the municipal grant process. If interested, visit pelham.ca/municipal-grants to complete the application form and to apply by noon on Oct. 29, 2014.

AM I ON THE VOTERS' LIST?



The 2014 municipal election is on Monday, October 27th. Are you on the voters' list? Check to make sure you are by visiting pelham.ca/2014-election or come in to Town Hall (20 Pelham Town Square, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0).

WHAT WARD IS MY WARD?

Did you know there are **NEW Ward Boundaries** in effect for the 2014 municipal election? In recognition of growth within the Town pending development primarily within Ward Three, a re-division of the ward boundaries (which have been essentially unchanged since 1970) was completed in 2013 to take effect for the 2014 Election. To confirm which Ward is Your Ward, visit pelham.ca/news/what-ward-is-my-ward.

WHERE DO I VOTE? WHAT DO I NEED TO VOTE?

Are you unsure where to go on voting day to cast your ballot for the 2014 municipal election? Do you know what identification is required to receive your ballot? Visit pelham.ca/information-for-electors for a complete list of polling stations and ID requirements.

LOCAL NEWS

BUSINESS, COMMUNITY: Tough choices for judges

Ruby Awards' winners list impressive

From previous page

It was an extremely difficult task to choose the winners from among a large number of 65 businesses and individuals nominated for their innovation, hard work and philanthropy.

"Because you have all these disparate businesses, it's not like comparing apples and oranges. It's like comparing apples and elephants," said Ruby Awards committee member Mark Gruen.

She said committee members look at several key factors, such as the length of time in business, challenges they face, innovation or productivity, the growth of the business and the contributions they make to the community.

But the youth citizen of the year award was even more challenging.

"Oh my gosh, like Kevin



(Jacobi) said, I'm pretty sure those kids don't sleep. Every time I read through their nomination forms, my bath in the future is restored," Groom

added. "It is very difficult, because all of the nominees are very deserving, otherwise they wouldn't have been nomi-

nated. Tough, tough decisions."

alan.benner@sunmedia.ca
Twitter: @abenner1

ALLAN BENNER / STAFF PHOTO
The Welland/Pelham Chamber of Commerce recognized individuals and businesses for their innovation, hard work and philanthropy during the annual Ruby Awards Friday evening. From left are Youth Citizen of the Year Vinay Sharma, Stephan Humilowycz, founder of the Welland Printers House; and Mary Ann Christoff Community Service Award winner Carolyn Fast.



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Employee of the Year:
Lynn Amyotte, from Seasons
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Snips Landscape and Nursery
(small) & E.L. Crossley
Secondary School (large).

**Venture Niagara Award
for Women in Business:**
Gail Belchior from Financial
Divorce Solutions.

**RBC Financial Group
Business Award:** Rob Noyes
from Colby Noyes
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Business Initiative Award:**
Tim Proctor from Turf Net
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**Stuart Cumming
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Hawryni.

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IN BRIEF

Cabbie robbed

Police were looking for two teenagers in connection with a robbery in St. Catharines Saturday night.

Officers were called to the Kinsey St. and Powerview Ave. area at about 9:30 p.m. Niagara Regional Police say a taxi driver was robbed, although he was not

hurt.

Police say two young men, or possibly teens, got into the taxi, then instructed the driver to pull over at knife-point. The pair fled on foot with a small amount of money. Both were described as about 5-foot-9 and weighing about 135 pounds. They were both wearing hooded sweatshirts and were last seen running behind houses on Powerview Ave. Police ask anyone with information to contact investigators at 905-735-7811 ext. 4286.



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ZOSTAVAX: PREVENT SHINGLES

Shingles is caused by the same virus that causes chickenpox (varicella-zoster virus). After the chickenpox blisters heal, the virus remains dormant in nerve cells in your body. It can become reactivated after many years resulting in shingles. It is not known exactly why the virus becomes reactivated, however it is thought that having a weakened immune system along with physical trauma, UV light or stress may play a role. The risk of developing shingles increases with age and people over 50 years old are at the greatest risk. The symptoms include a painful, blistering rash that often breaks out in one part of the body, usually the chest or upper back are involved. Sometimes the pain resulting from shingles can last for weeks, months, or rarely years, after the rash heals. This lasting pain has been described as burning, aching, throbbing or stabbing and can result from something as little as a breeze or the touch of clothing on the skin. Older people are again at greater risk. Shingles may also result in skin infections at the site of the rash or scarring following healing of the rash.

Fortunately, a vaccine is now available to boost your immune system and help to prevent shingles and its complications. It is called Zostavax and is available to adults over 50 years old. The vaccine cannot be used if you are already experiencing symptoms of shingles; it is only used for prevention. This vaccine was found to reduce the risk of developing shingles by about 50-70% (depending on your age) within the first year after receiving the vaccine.

Zostavax is safe for most people, however it should not be used by anyone who:

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■ TRANSPORTATION

Niagara could get passenger trains

ROB HOULE
QMI Agency Niagara

Niagara might get north-south commuter rail service in the not-too-distant future under a plan proposed by Trillium Railway.

Trillium Railway president Karen Ettinger recently unveiled a proposal to Niagara Region politicians asking them to explore a private-public partnership that

would create passenger train service between St. Catharines and Port Colborne.

The service would make use of Trillium tracks that run along the west side of the Welland Canal. Trillium currently hauls freight to 20 industries in Port Colborne, Welland, Thorold and St. Catharines. To accommodate the Niagara Rail Transit Spine, Trillium would adjust its freight schedule.

"It's great news," said Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badaway, chair of Niagara Region's transportation strategy steering committee.

"It's really going to galvanize the

region with respect to getting an integrated transit system for the entire region," Ettinger said.

Regional councillors recently gave staff the go-ahead to move beyond the pilot project phase of an inter-municipal transit system and to consult further with Niagara's 12 municipalities to make it happen.

It is widely believed an integrated transit system serving all 12 municipalities will be getting daily GO train service to Niagara.

Creating the north-south spine would serve as an extension of GO train service, Badaway said.

"It doesn't just bring GO into the north part of the region, it brings it

into all the region, right down the spine, from St. Catharines to Thorold to Welland and into Port Colborne," Badaway said.

Badaway said an integrated transit system that includes the Trillium Railway proposal "raises the bar" in promoting Niagara as a "world-class destination" with Niagara Falls as a focal point.

He said it's important to have the infrastructure in place to move people around the region through the Niagara "brand" that includes the falls, wineries, agri-tourism, history, beaches and festivals.

"Now it's just a matter of putting the infrastructure in place to move people around so when

they do come here, whether they come here through GO or they drive their vehicle, they can quickly park it and they can go anywhere throughout the entire brand," Badaway said.

In her presentation, Ettinger noted "key benefits" to a passenger train partnership between Trillium and the region include:

— A direct north-south route for Niagara residents to access key employers, creating access to a larger labour pool for employers;

— Supporting Niagara's grow-south strategy by enhancing transit links to central and east Niagara;

— Creating new development opportunities, (residential, commercial and industrial) clustered around NRTS stops;

— Improving the inter-municipal transit rider experience;

— Enhancing tourism.

The report says while other Ontario communities are currently planning high rail projects, which could take years and hundreds of millions of dollars to implement, Niagara Region can make use of an existing line and at a fraction of the cost.

Trillium report says its rail line would require approximately \$1.6 million in upgrades to accommodate passenger service, work that could be completed in six months. The cost of upgrading to double track and platforms is still to be worked out, and would depend on the number of stops along the 50-kilometre rail line.

The biggest up-front cost, the report notes, would be the purchase of single locomotive passenger cars called Diesel Multiple Units, pegged at \$4 million each.

Trillium spokesman John Armstrong said the number of DMUs will be required, depending on ridership.

Other alternatives to the purchase of new DMUs include lease agreements or the purchase of used units.

Region councillors directed staff to work collaboratively with Trillium Railway to incorporate an assessment of the Niagara Rail Transit Spine service as part of its inter-municipal transit study and its transportation master plan.

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■ **BUYING MARINELAND?**: Joel Zimmerman wants to make an offer, get rid of animals

Deadmau5's blog blasts Marineland

JOHN LAW

QMI Agency Niagara

From Marineland to
Mausland?

Don't rule it out, says Deadmau5. The Niagara Falls-born music star, real name Joel Zimmerman, took to his blog Oct. 13 (after a few glasses of wine) to air some thoughts on Marineland. About an hour later, his three million Twitter and 9.3 million Facebook followers received a lengthy Deadmau5 rant blasting one of his hometown's biggest tourist attractions.

For a post titled Deer Marineland, Zimmerman ripped both the park and its protesters, urged the owner to remove all animals, then raised the possibility of buying the park himself: "I'm probably not far off, so you might wanna hop on this 4--," he posted at about 10 p.m. Monday night.

Contacted by QMI Agency Niagara later that night, Zimmerman said he was serious about crowdsourcing enough money to add to his own to purchase the 53-year-old facility from owner John Holer and transform it into a theme park with the profits shared among the investors.

"It's hard for me to see impossibilities after everything that's happened in the last 10 years," said one of the world's most popular (and wealthiest) electronic music producers.

"So as long as I'm motivated and can see past the despair of what potential roadblocks might stop me from achieving a goal — even if it's half-baked — then there's no stopping me."

Word spread quick Monday night, with several music sites repeating the post verbatim. Local animal rights activists also rallied behind the rant, despite Zimmerman's disdain for their protests.

"Do these types of animal activists realize how INACTIVE they are by holding signs and singing songs?" said Zimmerman. "I think, by definition, I'm more of an activist. I have a plan to do something, and I'm going to try to set my plan in action."

Activist Phil Demers, a Marineland whistleblower being sued by the park for \$1.5 million, feels Zimmerman is "out of line" belittling his efforts, but realizes a celebrity of Deadmau5's stature could make a huge difference.

"If he can create more change in 10 minutes than we've created since 2012, then the future is bright indeed."

Marineland spokeswoman Marie Rondinelli was unavailable for comment Tuesday. Marineland closed for the season on Sunday.

In his profanity-laced post, Zimmerman wrote going animal-free would earn Marineland "world-wide" acclaim, and likely reduce operating costs: "I don't know how much it costs to keep a huge f---in' fish in a huge f---ing tank, but I kinda have a good idea how much a roller-coaster costs and I'm sure it's pretty comparable."

Forbes listed Deadmau5's worth at \$21 million last year, but Zimmerman himself has tweeted it's closer to \$35 million. Last week, he completed the purchase of a \$5 million estate in Campbellville, Ont.

Zimmerman, 33, grew up in Niagara Falls and

went to Westlane High School. He said he hasn't been to Marineland since he was in Grade 9, mainly for the tides.

"To be honest, the animals being there ... it's kinda depressing to walk by the bear pen and seeing some of that en route to the next ride ... kinda puts me on a downer."

He added that during his last trip, an employee poured a bucket of "salt or something" into the bear compound. A gust of wind blew some of it into his eyes and he had to receive first aid.

"Haven't been back since."

Marineland has been under intense pressure from activists since 2012 when former employee Demers spoke out against the park. In turn, Marineland has filed six lawsuits to tallying \$14.25 million against three whistleblowers, two advocates and the Toronto Star newspaper.

Zimmerman says "only good" could come from a



REUTERS
DJ Joel Zimmerman — a.k.a. Deadmau5 — performs at the Xbox One fan celebration and launch party in Los Angeles, Calif.

my Top 5 ways to improve Niagara Falls."

john.law@sunmedia.ca

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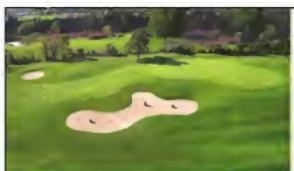
recently for its efforts to raise the profile and understanding of environmental issues.

The college was honoured in Ottawa Oct. 9 as the Canadian Network for Environmental Education and Communication 2014 winner of its outstanding post-secondary institution award.

The awards recognize individuals and organizations for their influence in advancing environmental learning. "Niagara College's enthusiasm

for protecting and enhancing the environment was apparent through its operational efforts and student life," said Nadine Lafont, EECOM director and co-chair of the awards committee.

The variety of programs offered that focus on energy, waste, carbon, paper, water, biodiversity, student engagement and more highlight just how much sustainability has been integrated into all areas of the college.



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LOCAL NEWS

■ HAUNT MANOR: Massive scary attraction back for 5th year

Let the screaming begin

JOHN LAW

QMI Agency Niagara

It's time for Phil Van Kleef to make grown men scream again.

Every September, the corn stalks, creepy-crawlies and body parts come out at his Lundy's Lane campground. And every year, plenty of tough guys can't take it.

"I had a team of football players in the ghost tunnels, as we call them," says the spook specialist behind the annual Haunt Manor at Camp Park Resorts. "They screamed like a five-year-old and fell on their backs, all of them."

The annual fright fest, which caught the attention of *Fangoria* magazine last year, returns starting Friday night, and Van Kleef promises more effects, actors and screams

this year. The already long hay ride has been expanded to the Haunture, and people will enjoy a few additions, including the Witches Cavern, 3-D Freak House and illusionist Edward Stone.

The entire production — one of the country's largest haunted attractions — is so complex it takes months to set up. All to give people a good scare.

In addition to the grisly effects, about 30 performers roam the grounds to terrify visitors, popping out when least expected. They're all trained actors who know how to rattle people. Some, like Chewy the Clown, have become recurring characters.

"They've made their own backgrounds and have actual fans."

As a kid, Van Kleef loved riding hay rides and the like, and knew his dad Peter's spacious campground on Lundy's Lane would be perfect for an interactive horror attraction.

He invested about \$150,000 for the first year in 2010, and since then has put nearly \$500,000 into making it an even spookier place.

"My dad thinks I'm crazy, but once it starts up, he's like, 'Oh, wow.'

Considering the lengths he goes, it's surprising that Van Kleef isn't a horror fan. He liked the look in the movie *Sleepy Hollow*, and aims for that theme — more gothic horror than slasher. But it's still not for the faint of heart — a separate Children's Day is held Oct. 11 minus the gore and mayhem.



MIKE DIBATISTA/STAFF PHOTO

Phil Van Kleef and his team are starting to set up for the annual Haunt Manor at his Lundy's Lane campground. The entire production at Campark Resorts in Niagara Falls is one of the country's largest haunted attractions, taking months to set up.

About 5,000 people showed up last year, says Van Kleef.

The busiest weekend was the one before Halloween, with three-hour lineups to get in.

Even while waiting in line,

performers keep the crowd

engaged with a theatre show.

People who don't want to take the full \$35 tour (hay ride and haunted houses) can do each on their own for \$20.

The full experience takes more than an hour.

Screaming football players aside, has Van Kleef ever scared anyone too much?

"No. Everyone walks out laughing."

john.law@summedia.ca

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**Tony DiCarlo
Sales, Ext. 301**



CHECK OUT THESE FEATURES

Entertainment

- NEW - OnStar with 4G LTE provides a built-in Wi-Fi hotspot to connect to the Internet
- Audio system, AM/FM stereo with CD player and MP3 playback capability
- Audio system feature, 6-speaker system
- Bluetooth for phone, personal cell phone connectivity to vehicle audio system

Exterior

- Wheels, 16" (40.6 cm) aluminum
- Tire sealant and inflator kit
- Shelters, front and rear, active
- Headlamps, halogen composite with automatic exterior lamp control
- Mirrors, outside heated power-adjustable with integrated turn signals, body-color
- Glass, solar absorbing
- Wipers, front intermittent with streakless wiper blades

Interior

- Seats, front bucket
- Seats, rear, 60/40 split-folding
- Armrest, center, rear w/ cup holders
- Steering column, tilt and telescopic
- Steering wheel controls, mounted radio and cruise controls
- Driver Information Centre, colour display includes trip/odometer, information, vehicle information and vehicle messages

Mechanical

- Engine, ECOTEC 2.5L DOHC and NEW auto shiftpak.
- Transmission, 6-speed automatic, electronically-controlled with overdrive
- Gear select, manual mode
- Traction control system
- 4-wheel disc
- Brake lining, high-performance, noise and dust performance with FNC rotors

- Windows, power with Express-Down on all

- Remote Keyless Entry includes panic button
- Power windows, electronic with set and resume speed
- Trunk release, power located in CHMSL deck list, push button open on key fob
- Compass display
- Theft-deterrent system, content theft alarm
- Air conditioning with heated sensor
- Defogger, rear-window
- Power outlets, 2 auxiliary 1 in integrated center console, 1 in centre console
- Power outlets, 2 in front center
- Visors, driver and front passenger illuminated vanity mirrors
- Lighting, interior with theater dimming and delayed entry/exit
- Map pockets, driver and front passenger seats
- Coat hooks, driver- and passenger-side rear

Safety

- Brake Assist, panic
- StabiliTrak, stability control system
- Air bags, 10 total, front and side for driver and front passenger, side-impact seat-mounted and roof rail for front and rear outboard seating positions includes Passenger Sensing System
- OnStar Directions and Connections plan for 4 months including GM OnStar, Crash Response, Stolen Vehicle Assistance, roadside Assistance and Turn-by-Turn Navigation
- NEW - OnStar with 4G LTE provides a built-in Wi-Fi hotspot to connect to the Internet
- LATCH system (Lower Anchors and Top Tether Anchors), for child safety seats
- Door and window locks, rear child security
- Tire Pressure Monitor System
- Warranty
- Basic: 3 Years/100,000 km
- DriveTrain: 5 Years/160,000 km
- Corrosion: 3 Years/60,000 km
- Thru-the-Year: 5 Years/160,000 km
- Extended Components: B Years/160,000 km
- Roadside Assistance: 5 Years/160,000 km includes Courtesy Transportation

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Sales, Ext. 307**

**Matt Ament
Sales, Ext. 303**

**Heather Johnson
Sales, Ext. 306**

**Heather Johnson
Sales, Ext. 305**

**David DiCarlo
Sales, Ext. 302**

**David DiCarlo
Sales, Ext. 304**

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Sales, Ext. 305**

**David DiCarlo
Sales, Ext. 306**

**David DiCarlo
Sales, Ext. 307**

AGRICULTURE: Threat to apples

Invasive bug found at Niagara border crossing

ALISON LANGLEY

(M) Agency Niagara

An invasive insect, the first of its kind known to exist in the Western Hemisphere, was found in a shipping truck at a Niagara border crossing.

U.S. Customs and Border Patrol officers discovered the bug on Monday, Oct. 6, after inspectors at the Queenston-

Lewiston Bridge searched a truck in an ocean container full of pump valves that originated in China.

The moth, known as Phaeocassiophora fernaldiana Walshingham, is a potential threat to the agriculture industry because it is known to feed on apples, apple buds, leaves and shoots, according to offi-

cials with Customs and Border Protection.

An entomologist with the U.S. Department of Agriculture confirmed two days later the moth was the invasive insect.

"CBP agriculture specialists in the Port of Buffalo do an excellent job of detecting invasive pests

that could cause harm to the United States agriculture industry," said Randy Howe, CBP director of field operations.

"We have an excellent working relationship with USDA and this is another example of CBP and USDA working closely together to protect the nation's agriculture resources."



SUPPLIED PHOTO

An invasive moth was found in an ocean container from China at a Niagara border crossing earlier this month.

The CBP issued an emergency action notification to the importer and the shipment was returned to Canada. Officials with the Canadian

Border Services Agency were not available for comment.

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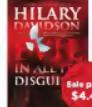
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List price: \$26.99



In All Its Disguise
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List price: \$26.99



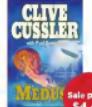
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■ GOVERNMENT: Greater emphasis on working more closely with municipalities is paying dividends

Kudos for Region CAO's first year on the job

ROB HOUKE
QMI Agency Niagara

What a difference a year makes.

In October 2013, Niagara Falls' chief administrative officer was quite critical of the relationship — or lack thereof — between his city and Niagara Region.

"Our voice, or our comments, are not being heard in the way they should be," Ken Todd told Niagara Falls city council. "We are brought into the loop way too late in the process or our comments are falling, basically, on deaf ears. (City staff comments are) disappearing into a black hole."

Fast forward a year.

"I can tell you in the past 12 months since Harry's arrival, the relationship at a staff level has just completely turned around," Todd said this month.

He was speaking of Harry Schlaenge, who took the helm of the region as CAO on Oct. 26, 2013.

When former CAO Mike Tropp retired in June 2013, Niagara Chair Gary Burroughs said in a recent interview, council saw it as an opportunity to "change how we do business."

Tropp had been with the region since 1986 and was its top bureaucrat for 13 years.

"This council," Burroughs said, "decided that the same-old, same-old was not good enough."

Burroughs, who was lord mayor of Niagara Falls for the last 10 years, said an "as versus them" mentality had developed between lower-tier government staffs and region staff.

He said Schlaenge tabled a plan to bridge that divide.

"The focus is so different, because we're here to help the local communities." But to others said, "That didn't happen, that wasn't our role. So before — at least I don't think we thought it was our role. So that's a big change."

Schlaenge, a former CAO for the Town of Fort Erie, said a culture change was required at the region.

"My major sales pitch (in the interview process) was that the time for Niagara was now to build a new organization," Schlaenge said, giving credit to a council that wanted change.

"I pitched how I could be the person who can help council — because it was their vision — build an organization that was quite different."

He said he introduced what he believes to be a "winning formula."

"The first thing was we had to realize as a Region that we were there to support and make the municipalities more prosperous and healthy," Schlaenge said. "That's about how we make each and every municipality stronger and more prosperous, then that would build a stronger region."

"It was almost turning it upside down. It was taking upper tier to a more support role."

Schlaenge said since he was named, he has pushed a "one team" approach among region staff.

To that end, he brought together "fragmented" departments that operated in "silos."

"We had to really build trust and confidence with all the departments and all the divisions in our corporation," Schlaenge said.

That resulted in some consolidation. As an example, finance staff who were within each department were brought together into one corporate finance team.

"Structurally, we consolidated things so we would think more as one team," the

56-year-old St. Catharines native said.

To lead the team, Schlaenge brought in several new department heads. Prior to his being hired, a number of senior staff positions had been vacant because of retirements or moves elsewhere. Those positions were left to be filled by the new CAO.

Schlaenge filled many of those positions with people he had worked with in Fort Erie.

"They all went through competition to get those jobs but in the end, their leadership style was very suitable for what the NIA needed to go now," he said. And that's why they were selected," Schlaenge said.

"It's about getting the right leaders... that are team players on the new culture here that's there to support the municipalities and be team players. And that's the kind of leaders we're bringing in. And we're still looking for leaders and making sure we're all working in the same direction."

In the past nine months, Schlaenge has organized "professional development" sessions in which leaders from Niagara Region and the 12 municipalities exchange ideas.

Burroughs said the new

regime has reached out to the business community.

"The other piece that I think is important is that all the associations, everything from the NIA (Niagara Industrial Association), the realtors, heavy construction associations, are involved in the region. And they are our business base. They're the big businesses in our community, and they were angry with us. In sitting down with them, it started a relationship — they're now one of our bigger supporters."

Christine Milan, vice-chair and member of the NIA board of directors, said there is now co-operation between industry and the region.

"Everybody (in the past) was trying to do their own thing, now we're working together, putting our resources together, rather than working individually," Milan said.

"The realtors association and the region are banding together and planning trade missions selling Niagara as a place to do business."

She noted the Region's economic development director sits on the association's board of directors, which is a first.

"We're pulling our resources

THIRD PARTY VALIDATION

Audit firm Deloitte conducted a survey in August and compared its results with those of 2013.

Here is what it found:

In 2013, none of the five economic development offices in Niagara were satisfied with Niagara Region. In 2014, 12 of five said they were.

In 2013, two of 12 municipalities said they were satisfied with Niagara Region; in 2014, 12 of 12 said they felt a positive difference.

said. "And we're communicating and saying, hey, this is what we need."

While he acknowledged there is still work to do, Schlaenge said he is satisfied "we're moving in the right direction."

Councilor Ken Todd among them agreed.

"I haven't seen that kind of cooperation in a number of years. It's been really refreshing for us to see," he said.

"I think with some of the changes Harry's made there, some of the new staff he's brought in, I think there's a refreshed view of what public service is all about."

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NOTICE OF DECLARATION OF SURPLUS LANDS AND PROPOSED LONG-TERM LEASE

NOTICE

WHAT IS THIS?

Pursuant to the Town of Pelham Sale of Real Property By-law #1942(1997), NOTICE is hereby given of the proposed long-term lease of municipally owned lands.

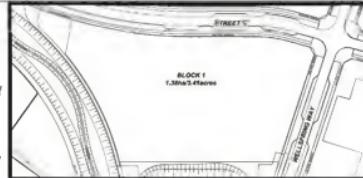
MORE INFORMATION

At their regular meeting of Council of October 6, 2014, Council of the Town of Pelham passed the following resolution, with regard to the lands shown on the accompanying plan Block 1:

THAT the information presented by Mr. C. Shedden, Legal Counsel on behalf of the Town of Pelham, being the proposed Lease Agreement between the Town of Pelham and Wellpring Niagara, be received; and

THAT the Clerk be directed to provide Notice in accordance with the Town's disposal of surplus lands by-law, and further

THAT the Clerk be directed to prepare the necessary by-law for consideration by Council at their next regular meeting.



CONTACT US

A copy of the preliminary plan & by-law may be viewed at the Office of the Clerk during regular office hours, Monday to Friday 8:30am to 4:30pm.

Nancy J. Bozzato, Town Clerk, P. 905-892-2607, ext. 315 E: nbozzato@pelham.ca
20 Pelham Town Square, P.O. Box 400, Fonthill, ON L0S 1E0





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The Town of Pelham is now accepting resumes from applicants with a Truck and Coach Technician diploma and an Automotive Service Technician diploma; a Diamond certification for International Trucks; certification for different engine manufacturers; Fire College pump training; OGRA snow school; a minimum of 3 years of experience as a certified Automotive Service Technician; experience in heavy duty equipment maintenance and repair environment; welding experience; familiarity with hydraulic systems and possession of a DZ license. This full-time opportunity is offered at \$58,656 - \$60,369 annually.

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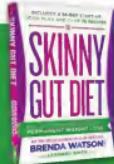


If you are like most Canadians who struggle with their weight, you have likely tried a number of diets by now, losing weight each time only to gain it back - and then some. But I'm willing to bet that you have not taken into account your inner weight loss secret. I call it the **gut factor**.

Inside your digestive tract are trillions of bacteria that play a crucial role in not only your digestive and immune health, but also your overall health - and most notably, your weight. Each of us has a unique balance of bacteria that either protects us and keeps us healthy or leaves us susceptible to disease. That same balance can either contribute to weight gain or to weight loss. When your gut bacteria are out of balance, you gain weight. Conversely, when you balance your gut by eating the right foods (and by *avoiding* the wrong foods) you lose weight, reduce cravings, ditch digestive upsets, boost immunity, reduce inflammation, and feel great. This emerging area of research is the reason I wrote *The Skinny Gut Diet*.

With *The Skinny Gut Diet*, you are going to implement a lifestyle that balances your gut. You will eat delicious foods that feed beneficial bacteria and reduce harmful bacteria. You will take supplements that help maintain that balance and support your core health, mainly high potency probiotics. By correcting your imbalance, you will reach a new state of wellness that reaches deep within you to bring about overall wellness.

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